

V. REMARKS

In the final Office Action, claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Distrelrath (U.S. Patent No. 4,867,110). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Distrelrath teaches a suction installation for a multi-cylinder internal combustion engine that includes a manifold and a plurality of suction pipes. The suction pipes extend from the manifold and are adapted to be operatively connected with a cylinder head. The shape of the entire manifold corresponds substantially to a sphere. The suction pipes are connected with the manifold by being aligned with their center lines substantially to the center of the sphere. The suction pipes supply the cylinders of the internal combustion engine with air from the interior space of the sphere.

Claim 6, as amended, is directed to a resin intake manifold provided with a surge tank arranged between a throttle body and an engine and reserving an air and a plurality of branch pipes including end branch pipes and inner branch pipes disposed between the end branch pipes and each having a discharge port connected to each of cylinders of an engine in one end and forming an air passage and evenly distributing the air to each of the cylinders of the engine. Claim 1 recites that air passage center positions of a plurality of branch pipes are arranged in a curved shape so as to make the air passage center positions of the inner branch pipes higher from a cut surface passing through the surge tank relative to the air passage center positions of the end branch pipes, and a wall portion of the surge tank in an opposite surface to the branch pipes with respect to the surge tank is formed in a curved shape expanded in a center portion. Claim 1 further recites that the resin intake manifold includes an upper piece, a center piece and a lower piece, the upper piece and the center piece are connected together to define at least in part the plurality of branch pipes and the center piece and the lower piece are connected together to define at least in part the surge tank with the center piece being connected to and between the upper and lower pieces.

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is improper because the applied art fails to teach each element of claim 6 as amended. Specifically, it is respectfully submitted that the applied art fails to teach that a resin intake manifold includes an upper piece, a center piece and a lower piece, the upper piece and the center piece are connected together to define at least in part the plurality of branch pipes and the center piece and the lower piece are connected together to define at least in part the surge tank with the center piece being connected to and between the upper and lower pieces. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claim 6 is allowable over the applied art.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Newly-added claims 14 and 15 also include features not shown in the applied art.

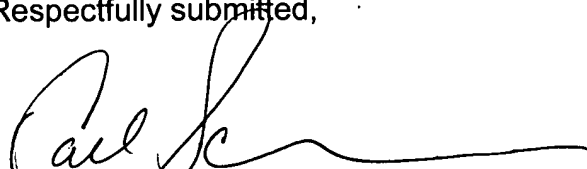
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure(s): Request for Continued Examination
Amendment Transmittal

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